

HUMAN EXPLORER



Dr. **Koert van Mensvoort** is an artist and philosopher best known for his work on the philosophical concept of Next Nature, which revolves around the idea that our technological environment has become so complex, omnipresent and autonomous that it is best perceived as a nature of its own. It is his aim to better understand our co-evolutionary relationship with technology and help set out a track towards a future that is rewarding for both humankind and the planet at large. Van Mensvoort is director of the Next Nature Network; a 21st century nature organization that wants to go forward – not back – to nature.



Mrs **Torun Degnes** is the CEO of SAMS autonomous mobility, a Norwegian cluster organisation. SAMS represents leading companies in Norway developing autonomous solutions and is granted funding from the Norwegian Government and Buskerud Fylkeskommune together with two other counties. Degnes is an experienced cluster manager with a Masters degree in industrial design. She has held several management positions and previously been a board member of The Norwegian Design Council and of Innovation Norway.



Anders Bache is a consultant at Follo Museum/ Roald Amundsen`s house and an archeologist with a special knowledge about polar heritage and history. For the last 14 years Bache has been working with research, exhibition development and public engagement relating to polar history and heritage sites in the Arctic and Antarctic.



Prof. dr. Cathy Macharis is the director of MOBI (Mobility, Logistics and Automotive Technology Research Centre) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Her research focuses on the transition towards a more sustainable mobility and logistical system. She has been involved in several European and regional projects. She`s also the chairwoman of the Brussels Mobility Commission and the Sustainability Council of the VUB.



Olav Madland introduced self-driving vehicles to Norway 2016. As the CEO of Applied Autonomy he has been involved in autonomous driving at Svalbard

<https://youtu.be/jfTwpttVCY0> and the world's longest public transport service with autonomous shuttles up to now (4,4 kilometer round trip at Kongsberg). Applied Autonomy is a driver for Norway's strong performances in both the technology and innovation pillar, where it is second, and consumer acceptance, where it is third.



Gábor Bartha is the team leader on Smart Mobility in Unit H5 at Directorate General Communications Networks, Content and Technology (CONNECT) since 2018. He is responsible for managing the team and for international and legislation aspects. Previously he was the leader of the legal team responsible for the eIDAS Domain (electronic identity and trust services) in the same directorate for 9 years.



Geir Rognlien Elgvin is our host on Thursday 19 September. Geir has background from the shipping industry and has a special expertise on sustainable development, electromobility, electrification of ports and urban planning. Geir works as a Project Director in the Norwegian architectural agency NSW Arkitektur in Oslo. Geir is the former chairman of the board in The Norwegian Electric Vehicle Association in Oslo. From 2015 to 2017, he was a beta tester for Tesla in Norway. He is also a board of director in The Port of Oslo.



Nikolaos Tsampieris has over twenty years of experience in Digital Signal Processing for Communication systems, Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN), IoT, embedded Security Systems, Cryptography and 5G. Prior to his engagement at ERTICO, he was leading the INLECOM IoT and security division and was the project manager for SELIS, a flagship EU program in Transport and Logistics.



Mr. Ketil Olaf Paulsen holds an engineer degree in automation and microelectronic. He is specialised in the integrated automation systems, software systems and he has long experience in the product development field as well. For the last two years, he has been responsible for establishing and funding the Autonomy and Energy programs in Kongsberg Maritime. He started as a software engineer for the Kongsberg Maritime in 1986. Later he worked as Product manager/General manager/Technology Director for KM Offshore & Marine Division.



As innovation 'enablement' manager for the Port Authority, **Piet Opstaele** is one of the drivers of the digital transition in the Port of Antwerp. Based on a founded strategy and by executing concrete innovation projects, he makes the 'Port of the Future' tangible and leads

the development of innovation platforms (e.g. smart shipping, drones) to a smart Port - on which startups, companies, knowledge institutions and other authorities create new value for the Antwerp port ecosystem.



Mr. Trond Hovland is the CEO of ITS Norway, a membership association promoting ICT and R&D in the transportation sector. Before joining ITS Norway in 2009, Hovland worked nearly 18 years for the Norwegian Public Roads Administration. Hovland has a keen interest in organizational development, network-based innovation processes, and has actively participated in international standardization projects under ISO and CEN. In his current position at ITS Norway, Hovland has worked to raise awareness of ITS and has established nation-wide cooperation platforms to support uptake and implementation of new technologies.



Ann-Sofie Pauwelyn is Smart Shipping Project Leader at the Flemish Inland Waterway Authority (De Vlaamse Waterweg nv). She is the expert on autonomous shipping inside the Flemish Government. Next to autonomous inland waterway vessels, her focus is on the transition towards more digital administration of vessel documents. She is contact point for technology and innovation projects.



Vegard Evjen Hovstein is the founder and Managing Director of Maritime Robotics. He has a MSc in Engineering Cybernetics with specialty in vehicle control systems. Maritime Robotics is developing, operating and delivering a range of unmanned vehicle systems from Moored Balloon Systems, Unmanned Marine Surface Vehicles as well as Unmanned Aircraft Systems. Hovstein has worked with unmanned vehicle systems in startup companies for more than 10 years.



Rik Goetinck is Vice President (and member of the management committee) at the Zeebrugge Port Authority since February 2012, responsible for policy and strategy. Worked at the Flemish mobility and public works' policy department, providing direct support to the Minister of Public Works and to the minister-president of the Flemish government, from 1998 until January 2012.



Tim De Ceunynck obtained a double PhD in Engineering and Transportation Sciences from the universities of Lund (Sweden) and Hasselt (Belgium). He is working as a research line coordinator at Vias institute, Belgium. His main research interests are video analysis of near crashes and road users' behaviour, in-depth crash investigations and sustainable mobility.



Krista Walsh, Director EU Communication & Sustainability Affairs, Volvo Group Representation EU

Krista Walsh joined the Volvo Group in 2008 and has held various positions with the company both in Sweden and Belgium. Walsh holds a bachelor degree of Business Administration from St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, Canada and a M.Sc. in International Marketing from Mälardalen University, Västerås, Sweden.



Esen Köse is a project manager at Taxistop. She works on European projects that focus on making shared mobility more inclusive and promoting innovative solutions in mobility. The target groups she works with are less mobile elderly people, migrants and youngsters.



Dr. Jan-Olaf Willums is a serial entrepreneur and early-stage investor in clean-tech companies, including Computas (Artificial Intelligence), REC (solar), Think (Electric cars), Move About (car sharing), ZEM (batteries for ships) and ZET (Zero Emission Transport software). He chairs the joint venture THINK-NEXT AS, established together with the Silicon Valley company NEXT Future Transportation Inc. He has a M.Sc. from the Swiss Institute of Technology (ETH), a D.Sc. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)



Jørgen Sandø is a Senior Engineer at COWI and has wide experience from transport and mobility projects. Jørgen is one of few unique road - and transport planners who are able to combine transport planning and city planning with great understanding. He played a vital role in how the proposals for restructuring mobility for the Kristiansand Vision – Electric City 2050 was undertaken.



Dr. Gunnar D. Jensen is a senior Research Scientist and Project Manager at SINTEF, Scandinavia's largest independent Research Institute. He is an Expert on Safety and Human Factors and has taken part in numerous EU projects on driver assistance automation and Connectivity. He is presently engaged in four projects on autonomous and automated transport.



Clément Delbouys started his career working for the Public Transit Operator of Toulouse in France before he joined EasyMile. He strongly believes the future of public transportation relies on quality of service and seamless transportation. That is the reason why he joined EasyMile in 2016 where he can help the growth of autonomous shared mobility, the current revolution in the public transit. Clément Delbouys holds a MSc in Big Data and an Advanced Master in Sales of the French National Institute of Applied Sciences.



Arve Kirkevold, project manager Smart mobility at Norwegian Public Roads Administration. Mr. Kirkevold has more than 30 years of experience from road and transportation sector, with special focus on construction, road safety, ITS, road tolling and Smart cities.



Aric Dromi currently resides in Gothenburg, Sweden, splitting his time between his role as the in-house futurologist at Volvo cars, running his own company where he travels and changes the way we experience the world, the way we think about thinking and transform the way we understand change. He gives speeches that frame questions and help people identify and abandon old paradigms and rethink thinking.